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See how much I've grown

Tech. Sgt. James Torres, 377th Security Forces Squadron, gazes into the eyes of his two-year-old daughter, Olivia Torres, upon returning Friday with 24 other security forces members, from a six-month deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Photo by Todd Berenger

AF birthday gala tomorrow in Hangar 1002

BY JENNIFER E. WEST
Nucleus staff writer

Period military uniforms, Ginger Rogers style ball gowns, business suits or modern formalwear—it's all in fun for celebrating the 57th birthday of the Air Force. The gala event is in Hangar 1002, tomorrow, 6-10:30 p.m.

The United Service Organization hangar dance themed "Tribute to a Generation" promises a night of great hors d'oeuvres, big band and modern dance music, vintage aircraft and vehicle displays. The ball also includes a "French café" and a silent auction benefiting the Air Force Aid Society and Casa Esperanza sponsored by the Company Grade Officers Council. Among the auction items are rides in two of the vintage aircraft.

Although the event features a cake-cutting ceremony, Col. Hank Andrews, 377th Air Base Wing commander, emphasizes that the Air Force ball is truly a night of fun and fellowship and not to be confused with a dining in or a dining out. He notes there are no grog bowls, speeches and minimal pomp and circumstance.

Ticket prices, ranging from \$15-\$30, include a special commemorative coin, although coin purchase is not required. Club members also receive an additional \$2 discount on their ticket prices. Some tickets will be available at the door tomorrow.

Music is by Ron Thielman's High Society Orchestra, which performs music of the Glenn Miller style through more contemporary selections,

including country and pop. Dance cards for women are provided at the door.

TEAM KIRTLAND members can enter with the general public through the Truman Gate where all drivers will be guided to parking, or park at the Rio Grande Community Center and catch a shuttle bus to the hangar. Shuttles, running in 15-minute intervals, will be available 5:30-7:30 p.m. Return from the hangar to the community center is 9-11:30 p.m.

Join Colonel Andrews and all of TEAM KIRTLAND in the night of pure celebration.

For information, contact your first sergeant, 1st Lt. Garrett Nelson at 846-5062, 1st Lt. Christina Ming at 846-4597 or 2nd Lt. Marietta Sanders at 846-5628.



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TEAM
KIRTLAND
members are

deployed in **15**
locations

Force Protection
Condition
ALPHA

Straight Talk
853-4636